

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

ACDA-10 SAJ-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 OES-06 /100 W

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R 210655Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4957

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

EUCOM

USDOCOSOUTH

USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

UNCLAS ANKARA 7235

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR TU GR CY

SUBJECT: PRIMIN DEMIREL'S SEPT 18 PRESS CONFERENCE:
GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS AND CYPRUS

1. FOLLOWING ARE SIGNIFICANT EXCERPTS FROM PRIMIN DEMIREL'S
REMARKS ON GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS AND CYPRUS DURING HIS
PRESS CONF SEPT 18 (OTHER TOPICS BEING REPORTED SEPARATELY):

A. THE AEGEAN DISPUTE: "...BOTH THE SECURITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION AND THE COURT RULING HAVE PROVED DECISIVELY THAT
THE GREEK EFFORTS AND INITIATIVES TO OBVIATE TURKEY'S PROSPECTING
ACTIVITIES IN THE AEGEAN WERE DEVOID OF BOTH POLITICAL AND
LEGAL GROUNDS...THE COURT RULING CONFIRMED THAT GREECE TRIED
TO CREATE A TEMPEST IN A TEACUP, AND FURHERMORE, THAT
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TURKEY'S APPROACH TO THE AEGEAN CONTINENTAL SHELF QUESTION IS

CORRECT...THE TURKISH GOVT BELIEVES IN THE GREAT IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING FRIENDLY AND GOOD-NEIGHBOR RELATIONS BETWEEN TURKEY AND GREECE. IT SINCERELY WISHES THAT THE AEGEAN SEA ...WILL BE TURNED INTO A BRIDGE OF FRIENDSHIP AND PEACE, WITH FRUITFUL AND USEFUL COOPERATION FOUNDED ON THE BASIS OF THE EQUALITY OF INTERESTS AND RIGHTS CONCERNING THIS SEA. WITH THIS OUTLOOK, I REPEAT AND DECLARE AGAIN OUR READINESS FOR THE PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES TO BE NEGOTIATED WITH A CONSTRUCTIVE AND RESOLUTE APPROACH...I HOPE THAT THE TURKISH AND GREEK FONMINS, WHO WILL MEET WHILE IN NY FOR THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, WILL AGREE TO CONTINUE THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE AEGEAN CONTINENTAL SHELF. I ALSO WANT CERTAIN BARRIERS WHICH WE DID NOT CREATE TO BE ELIMINATED BY THE TWO FONMINS..."

B. CYPRUS: "AS IS KNOWN, THE TURKISH SIDE SINCERELY DESIRES A SOLUTION THROUGH TALKS. IN BRUSSELS IN DEC 1975 THE TURKISH AND GREEK FONMINS AGREED ON A PROCEDURE... IT SOON BECAME APPARENT, HOWEVER, THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE HAD NO DESIRE TO COMPLY... DEVELOPMENTS SO FAR HAVE PROVED THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOTS DO NOT WANT TO SETTLE THE CYPRUS PROBLEM THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT THEY PREFER STERILE ARGUMENTS AND PROPAGANDA AT INTERNATIONAL FORA TO SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS... THE LATEST POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THZ GREEK COMMUNITY LEAVE NO ROOM FOR MUCH OPTIMISM ABOUT THE POLICY TO BE FOLLOWD BY THE GREEKS..."

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TERRITORIAL WATERS, DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, CONTINENTAL SHELF, PRESS CONFERENCES, AEGEAN, AIRSPACE VIOLATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ANKARA07235
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760356-0535
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760939/aaaabhbl.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 FEB 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 FEB 2004 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <11 JAN 2005 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRIMIN DEMIREL'S SEPT 18 PRESS CONFERENCE: GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS AND CYPRUS
TAGS: PFOR, TU, GR, CY, (DEMIREL, SULEYMAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006